

What is the Environmental Commissioner?

The Environmental Commissioner is appointed by the Legislature to monitor and report on the application of the *Environmental Bill of Rights*.

The Environmental Commissioner makes sure the government meets the requirements of the *Environmental Bill of Rights* by:

1. Monitoring how the Environmental Registry is used.
2. Receiving review and investigation applications.
3. Receiving complaints about employer reprisals.
4. Monitoring court actions.
5. Monitoring the way ministries handle reviews and investigations.
6. Working with the 14 ministries and the public to ensure the *EBR* is effective.

Where can I get more information?

The best way to protect the environment is to know and respect the *Environmental Bill of Rights*.

Contact the Office of the Environmental Commissioner — we'll be happy to answer your questions.

A Guide To The Environmental Bill Of Rights

And

The Environmental Commissioner

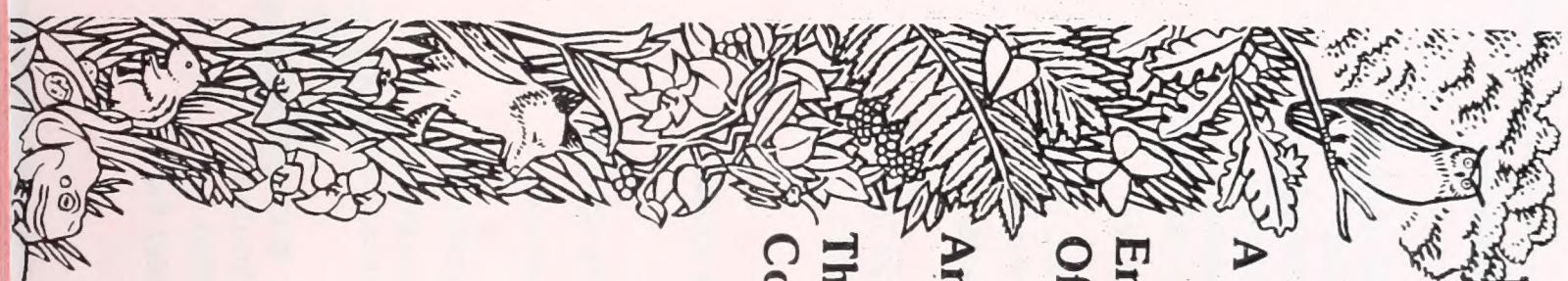
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What is the Environmental Bill of Rights?

5. Comment on proposed laws, appeal environmental decisions, review laws and ask for investigations.

The *Environmental Bill of Rights* (EBR) is a law that gives everyone in Ontario the right to participate in environmental decision-making. Fourteen ministries are subject to the EBR.

The goal of the EBR is to:

1. Protect, conserve and restore the natural environment.
2. Provide environmental sustainability.
3. Protect peoples' right to a healthful environment.

What are my rights under the EBR?

The EBR gives you the right to:

1. Comment on government decisions that are environmentally significant.
2. Make sure the government is accountable for environmental decisions.
3. Take action if your employer is harming the environment without fear of reprisal.
4. Go to court to protect the environment.

You'll find each ministry's SEV on the Environmental Registry. You can use the SEV to assess any ministry decision that is environmentally significant.

What is the Environmental Registry?

The Environmental Registry gives you the information you need to participate in environmental decision making.

This computerized bulletin board has general information on the EBR, each ministry's Statement of Environmental Values, and ministry proposals for environmental laws and programs.

You can access the Registry through your public library, your home computer or a computer network. You can comment on any proposal on the Registry. Ministries must consider your comments.

2. For more details on using the Environmental Registry, contact our office.

